

Introduced by Senator Johnson

February 12, 2003

An act relating to school finance.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 177, as amended, Johnson. Categorical funding programs.

Existing law establishes various categorical aid programs under which funding is provided for specific educational purposes.

This bill would ~~state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to eliminate categorical funding programs and, instead, to fully equalize funding for kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, so that each school receives the same dollar amount per pupil~~ *require the Superintendent of Public Instruction, on or before July 1, 2004, to provide the Legislature with a list of all categorical programs, including a description of each program, the source of funds for each program, the total amount of funds expended on each program in the 2002–03 fiscal year, and the amount of funds that each school district received for each program in the 2002–03 fiscal year.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 ~~SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact~~
- 2 ~~legislation to eliminate categorical funding programs and, instead,~~
- 3 ~~to fully equalize funding for kindergarten and grades 1 to 12,~~
- 4 ~~inclusive, so that each school receives the same dollar amount per~~

~~pupil. The purpose of this legislation is to grant each school district the freedom to design educational programs that meet the needs of its pupils and community.~~

SECTION 1. (a) On or before July 1, 2004, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall provide the Legislature with a list of all categorical programs. The list shall include a description of each program, the source of funds for each program, the total amount of funds expended on each program in the 2002–03 fiscal year, and the amount of funds that each school district received for the program in the 2002–03 fiscal year.

(b) For purposes of this section, “categorical program” means a state funded program for kindergarten or grades 1 to 12, inclusive, other than a program funded within a school district’s base revenue limit, that is created by the Legislature to support a specified local purpose, program, or service, and for which funds are allocated pursuant to statute, including, but not limited to, the annual Budget Act.

